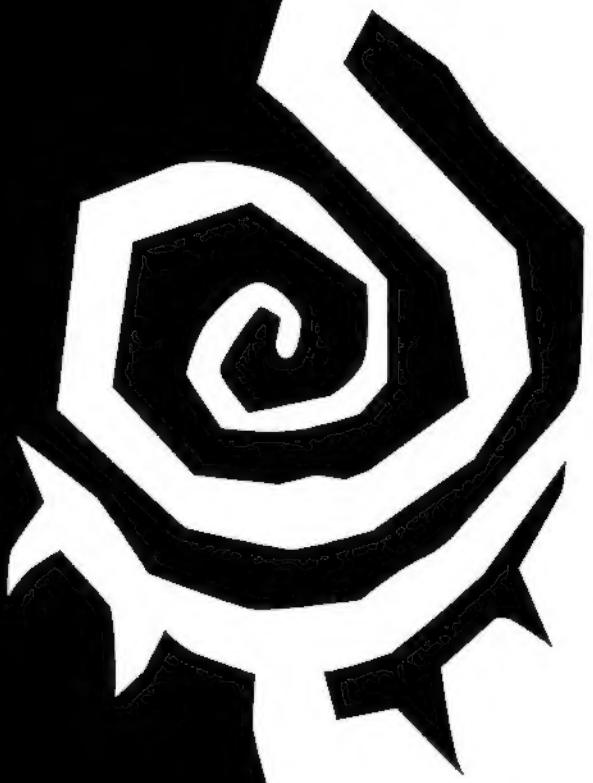
HAUNT
image
20
$2.99 US
JOE CASEY
NATHAN FOX

JOE CASEY Writer

Art NATHAN FOX



Color FCO PLASCENCIA

Lettering COMICRAFT

Cover Artist NATHAN FOX

JEN CASSIDY Managing Editor

ERIC STEPHENSON Publisher for Image Comics

Haunt Created by TODD McFARLANE and ROBERT KIRKMAN

Haunt #20. December 2011. First Printing. Published by IMAGE COMICS, 2134 Allston Way, Second Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704. Haunt, its logo and all related characters are registered trademarks of Todd McFarlane, Inc. All other related characters are TM and © 2011 Todd McFarlane. All rights reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. With exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Todd McFarlane. For information regarding the CPSIA on this printed material call: 203-595-3636 and provide reference # EAST - 955999.

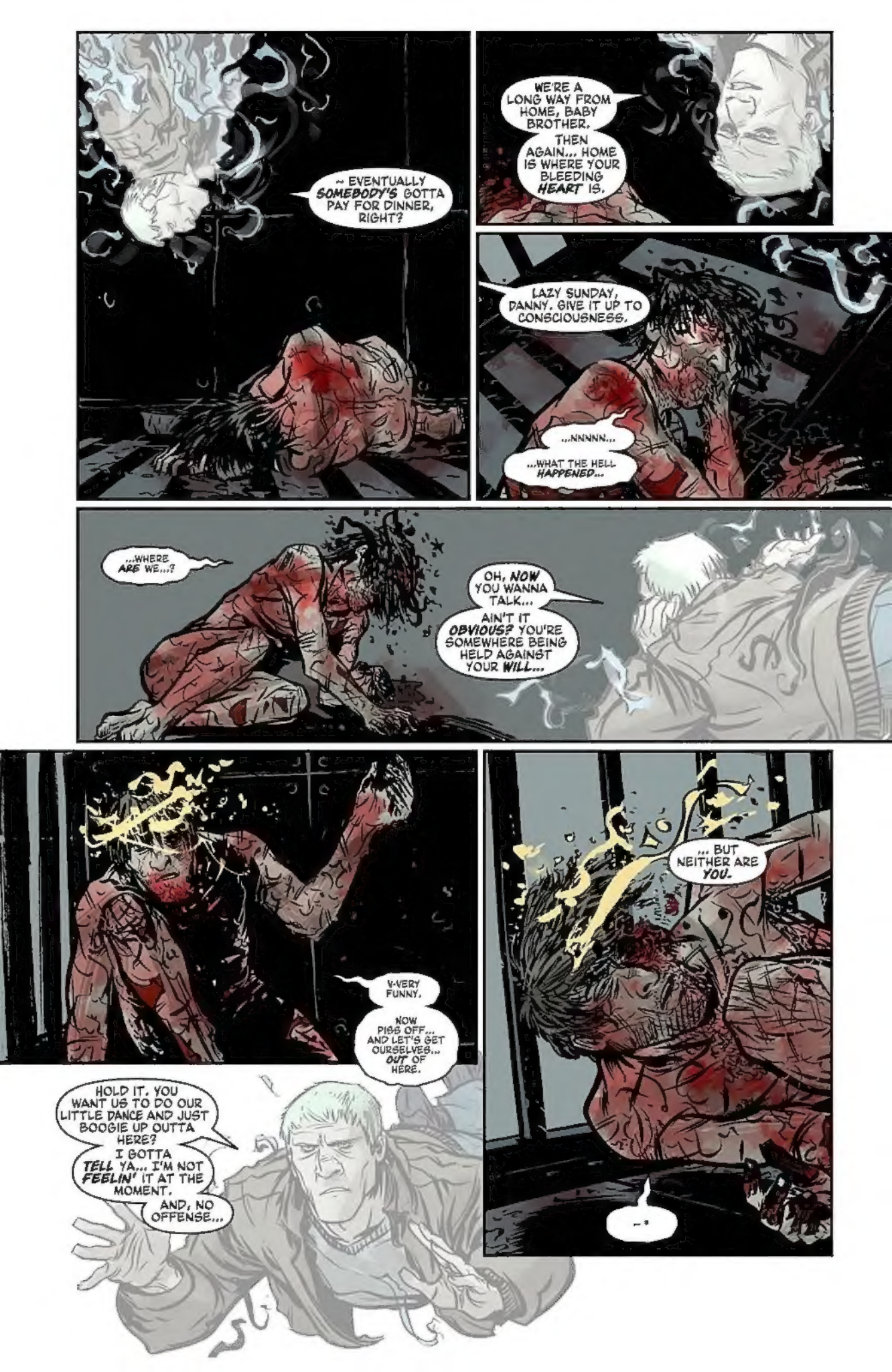
image

RADICAL CITY OF THE SECOND CHURCH
"THOU SHALT BREAK THEM WITH A RIVER OF IRON...
"... THOU SHALT WASH AWAY ALL PLEASURES OF THE FLESH."
THE BOOK OF TERMINUS. BOOK TWELVE. VERSE THREE.
DANIEL KILGORE IS HAVING A SHIT DAY.
"CONSUME THEM IN THY WRATH, ALL THE DARKNESS THAT BURNS WITHIN YOU...
"...FOR EVERY ONE THAT CURSETH HIS CREATOR SHALL SURELY BE DESTROYED."
ABYSSIUS 32:27
ENGAGE
RADICAL CITY OF THE SECOND CHURCH

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

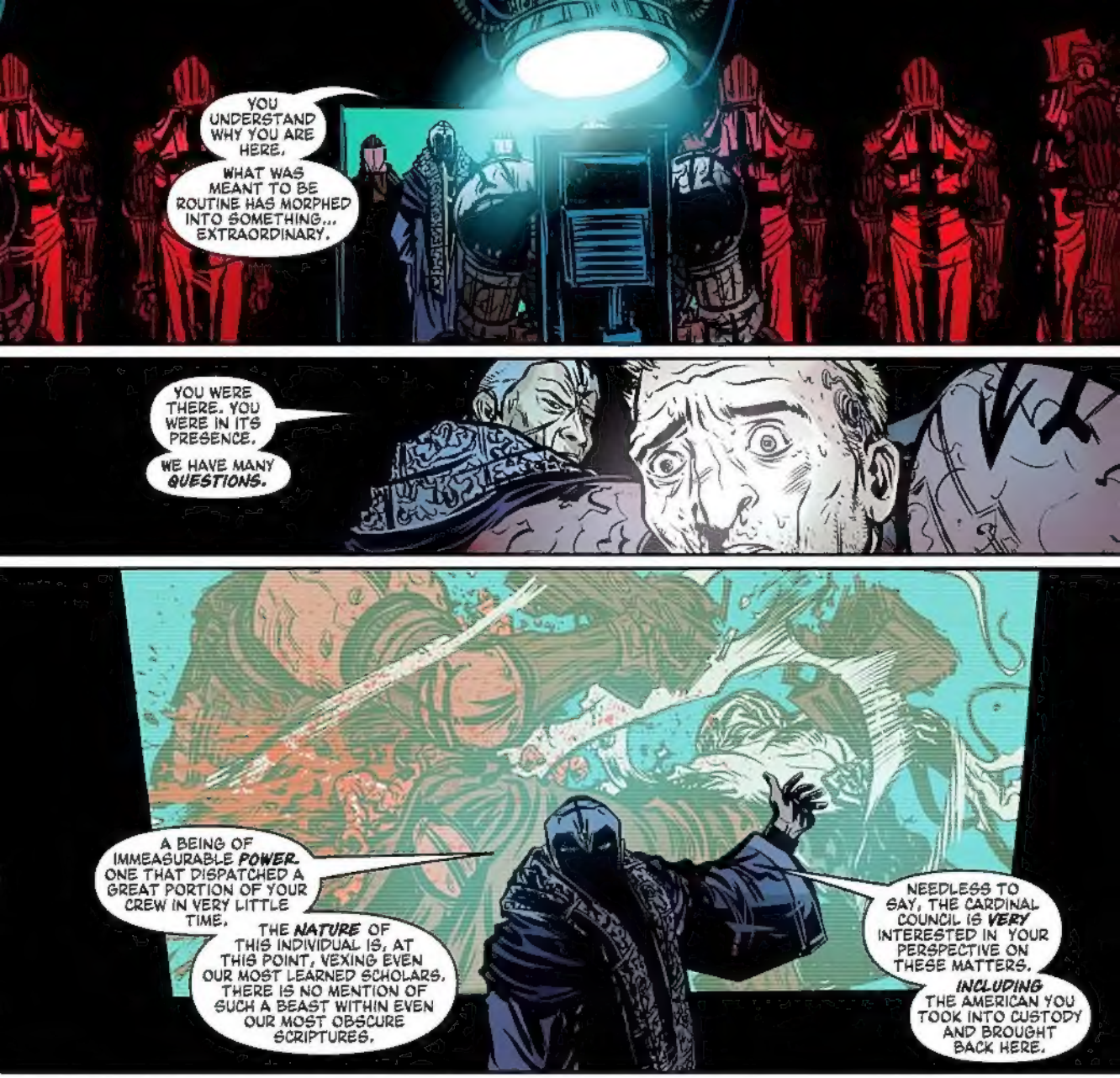
A CONSPIRACY

BY JOE CASEY AND NATHAN FOX


~ EVENTUALLY SOMEBODY'S GOTTA PAY FOR DINNER, RIGHT?
WE'RE A LONG WAY FROM HOME, BABY BROTHER.
THEN AGAIN... HOME IS WHERE YOUR BLEEDING HEART IS.
LAZY SUNDAY, DANNY. GIVE IT UP TO CONSCIOUSNESS.
...NNNNN...
...WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED...
...WHERE ARE WE...?
OH, NOW YOU WANNA TALK...
AIN'T IT OBVIOUS? YOU'RE SOMEWHERE BEING HELD AGAINST YOUR WILL...
V-VERY FUNNY.
NOW PISS OFF... AND LET'S GET OURSELVES... OUT OF HERE.
... BUT NEITHER ARE YOU.
HOLD IT. YOU WANT US TO DO OUR LITTLE DANCE AND JUST BOOGIE UP OUTTA HERE?
I GOTTA TELL YA... I'M NOT FEELIN' IT AT THE MOMENT.
AND, NO OFFENSE...

THIS FOOTAGE HAS BEEN AUTHENTICATED...?
THESE ARE DIRECT FEEDS FROM THE RANGERS' ARMOR CAMS...
... IN TRACKING THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR FROM SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, THEY ENCOUNTERED THIS CREATURE.
IN ADDITION, THEIR ECTO-METERS WERE REGISTERING INTENSE ENERGY SURGES WHILE THEY ENGAGED.
AS YOU CAN SEE, THE PRESENCE OF THIS... CREATURE TOOK THEM BY SURPRISE.
CLEARLY, THE RANGERS ARE A STRICT SHOCK-AND-AWE UNIT AND WE LOST SEVERAL OF THEM IN BATTLE, DID WE NOT...?
COULD THIS BE ANOTHER AGENT OF THE INSECT KING? ANOTHER MANEUVER IN HIS SICK CAMPAIGN FOR POWER?
IT'S POSSIBLE... BUT OUR SCIENCE DIVISION IS FAVORING A DIFFERENT EXPLANATION.
DEACON LARKIN... WHAT OF THE SURVIVING RANGERS CURRENTLY BEING INTERROGATED IN THE CONFESSION CHAMBERS?

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


YOU UNDERSTAND WHY YOU ARE HERE.
WHAT WAS MEANT TO BE ROUTINE HAS MORPHED INTO SOMETHING... EXTRAORDINARY.
YOU WERE THERE. YOU WERE IN ITS PRESENCE.
WE HAVE MANY QUESTIONS.
A BEING OF IMMEASURABLE POWER. ONE THAT DISPATCHED A GREAT PORTION OF YOUR CREW IN VERY LITTLE TIME.
THE NATURE OF THIS INDIVIDUAL IS, AT THIS POINT, VEXING EVEN OUR MOST LEARNED SCHOLARS. THERE IS NO MENTION OF SUCH A BEAST WITHIN EVEN OUR MOST OBSCURE SCRIPTURES.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE CARDINAL COUNCIL IS VERY INTERESTED IN YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON THESE MATTERS.
INCLUDING THE AMERICAN YOU TOOK INTO CUSTODY AND BROUGHT BACK HERE.

THAT IS... OUR INTENDED TARGET. THE PASTOR...
...IT WAS HE WHO... TRANSFORMED INTO THIS...
...UNHOLY THING...
...AND THEN...BACK AGAIN...

...THE CREATURE IS...WITHIN HIM...
IF THAT IS INDEED THE CASE...
...WE WILL SOON SEE FOR OURSELVES.

FROM THE HALLS OF MONTEZUMA

FIGHT FOR
RIGHT AND

DID YOU SEE THAT?
PERIMETER CANNON JUST AUTO-FIRED. NORTHEAST QUADRANT.
COULD'VE BEEN A FLOCK OF BIRDS. CHECK LOW ALTITUDE AND LET'S SEE WHAT IT PICKS UP...

...
GUH--!
WHA--?!

HHHNNN--!

GHHNN--!
ACK!
N-NO...

WHAT ARE YOU?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME--?!

!
PANTE
PANTE
PANTE
YOU AIN'T DAYDREAMING, DANNY-BOY --
--IT'S ALL REALLY HAPPENING.
WHAT'S... WRONG WITH YOU, KURT?!
WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS?!
NOT NORMAL...!
NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN.
SO YOU TELL ME WHAT "NORMAL" IS...
...AND IF I AGREE, THEN MAYBE WE CAN TALK.
YOU'RE TALKING IN CIRCLES...
...COMPLETE NONSENSE...
AFTER WHAT HAPPENED AT AUTUMN'S APARTMENT--

-- YOU SON OF A BITCH!
WHOA...!

-- WE ALL PLAYED OUR PART, DIDN'T WE?
I HELD... AUTUMN IN MY ARMS...
...HER DEAD BODY...
...DID THEY... OR DID WE...?
OH GOD...!
JUMP!

YOU WANNA THROW SOME BLAME AROUND? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH--

Y'KNOW, IT WAS PRETTY CHAOTIC IN THERE. BULLETS FLYING. THEY WERE OUT FOR BLOOD.
YOU AND ME... WE WERE SLICE-N-DICE ALL THE WAY...
HARD TO TELL EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED. BUT HEY...

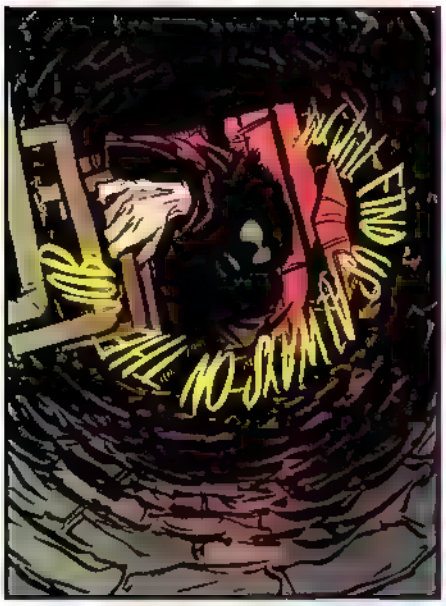
...BUT KEEP HOPE ALIVE, RIGHT?

I MEAN, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED, BRO...

...FOR A LITTLE BIT OF PEACE OF MIND.
LOTS OF LUCK WITH THAT...!

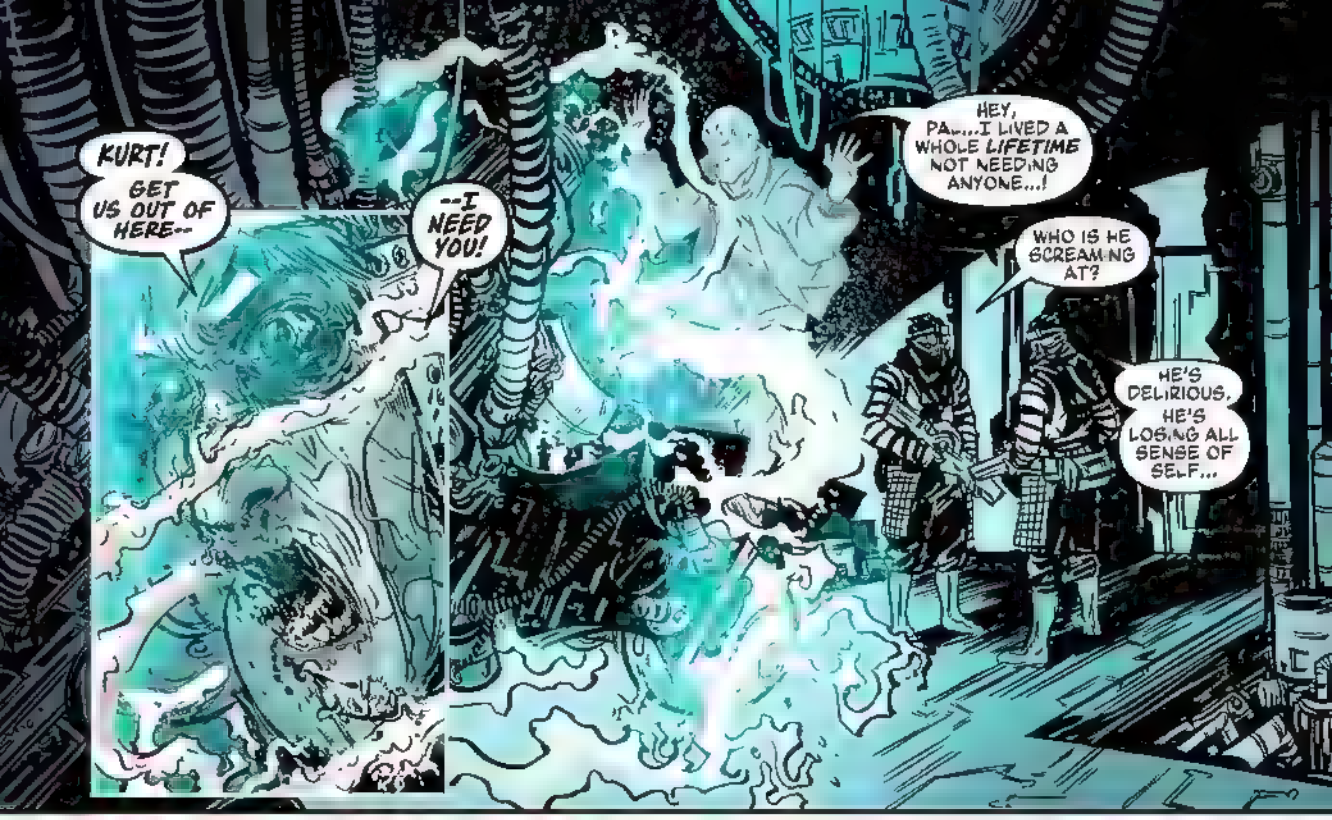
AND THE ALMIGHTY

"...AND THE ALMIGHTY DARKNESS WILL SM TE THEE WITH MADNESS, AND BLINDNESS, AND ABOLISHMENT OF HEART."
NEKRON 4:18.


AND THE ALMIGHTY SHALL FIND US

LOOK AT YOU--

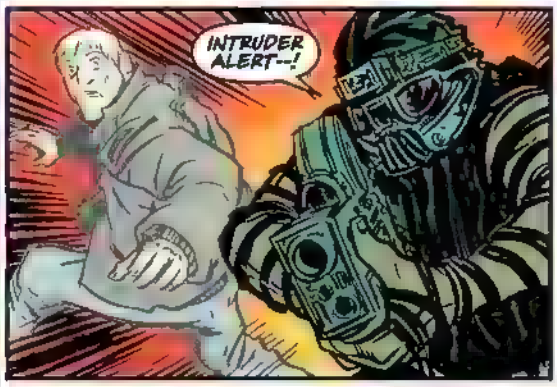
-- DON'T LET THE BASTARDS DRAG YOU DOWN, DAN!
FIGHT THE POWERS THAT BE!


KURT! GET US OUT OF HERE--
--I NEED YOU!
HEY, PA...I LIVED A WHOLE LIFETIME NOT NEEDING ANYONE...!
WHO IS HE SCREAMING AT?
HE'S DELIRIOUS, HE'S LOSING ALL SENSE OF SELF...

LOOKS PAINFUL.
I KNOW TORTURE WHEN I SEE IT... OR MAYBE THEY'VE ACTUALLY GOT A REASON FOR ALL THIS, HUH...?

PHASE TWO COMPLETE.

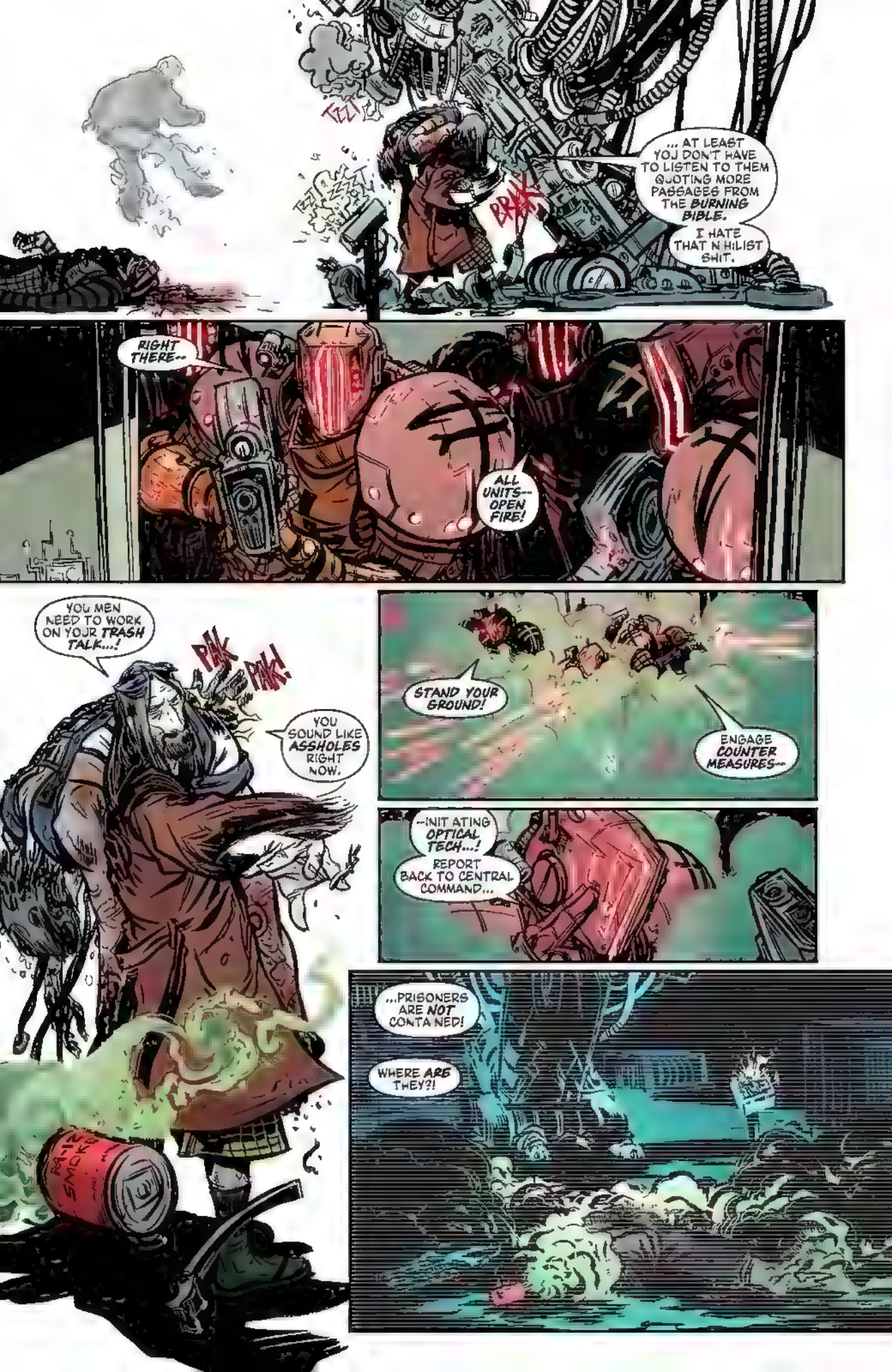
RESPONSE MONITORS ARE COLLATING THE DATA...
I'LL CONTACT DEACON LARKIN'S OFFICE AND LET THEM KNOW HE STILL HASN'T TRANSFORMED INTO --


INTRUDER ALERT--!

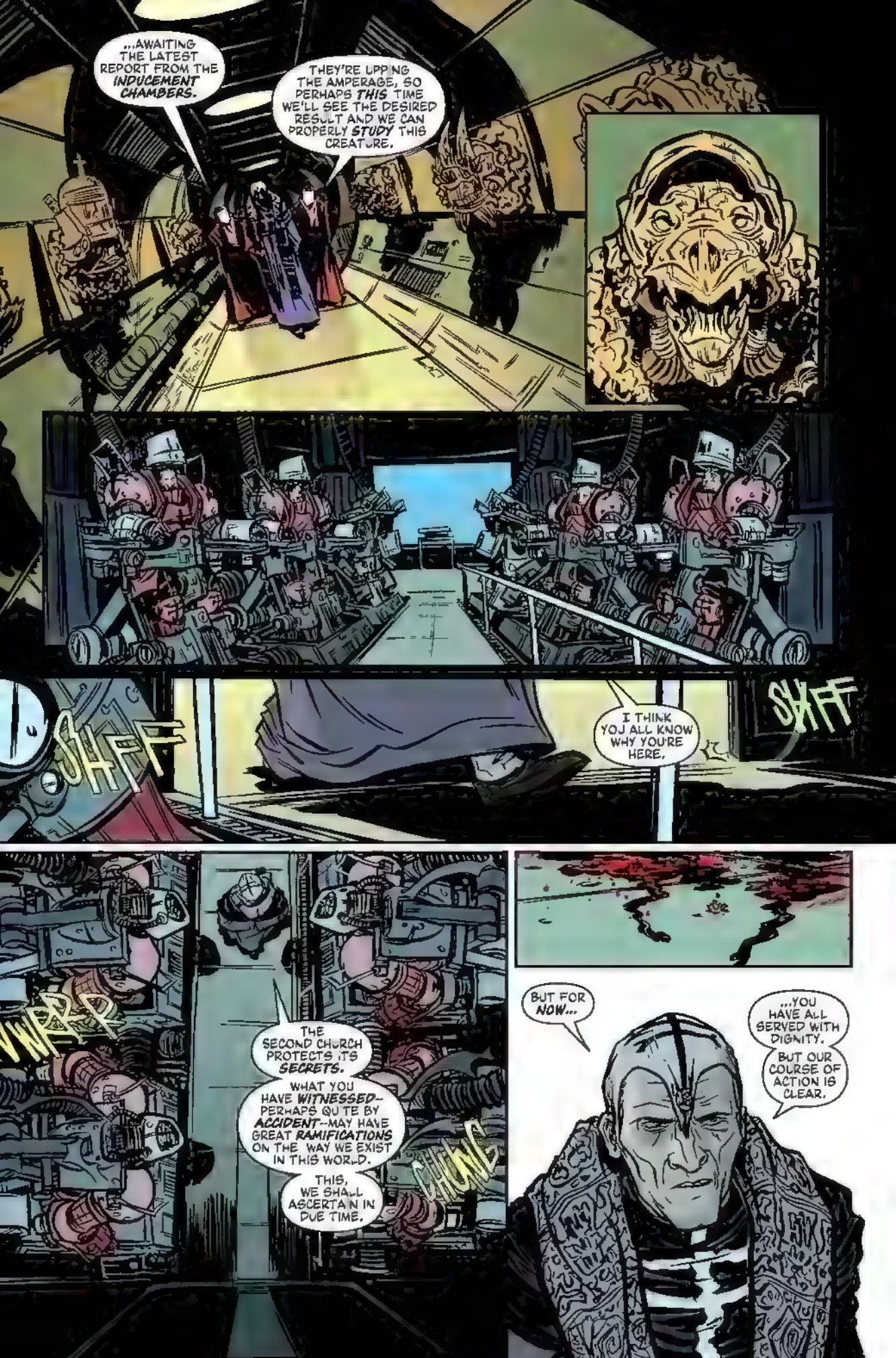
POOR BASTARD.

WHUMP
YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT.

TRY TO FIND YOUR HAPPY PLACE, KID...
...NNNNSSS...

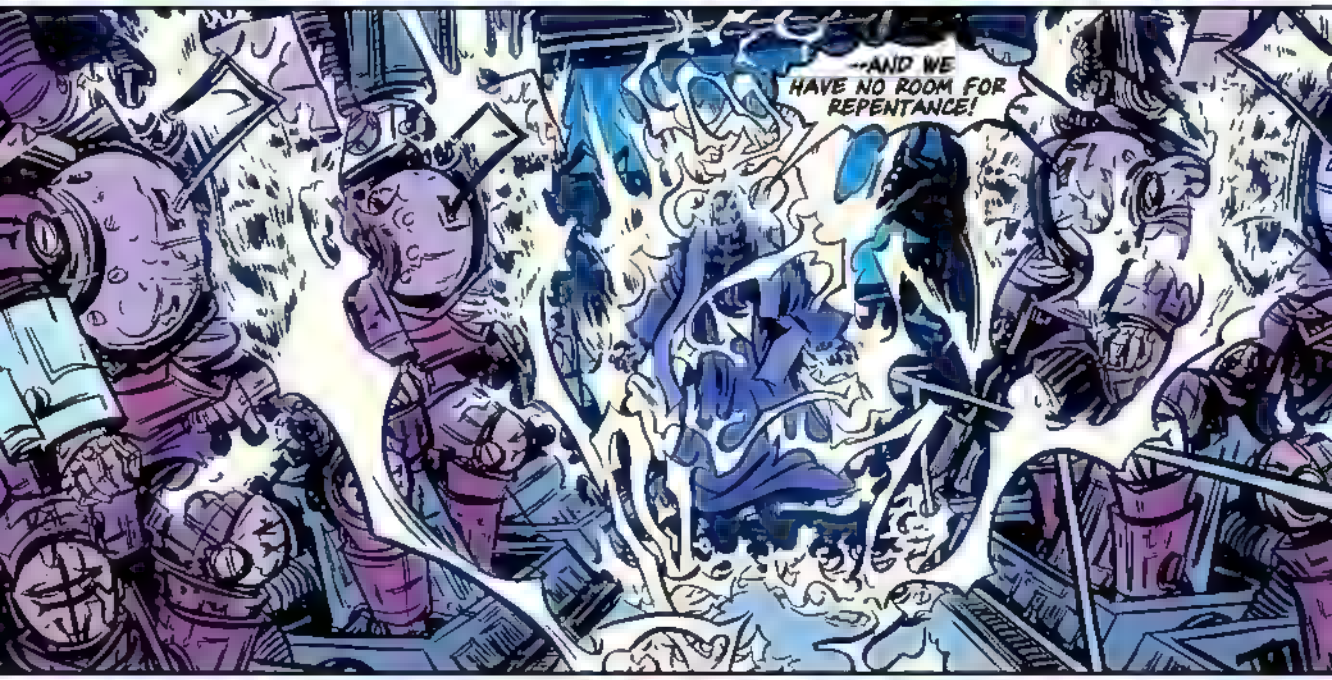

FZZT
BRAAK
... AT LEAST YOU DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO THEM QUOTING MORE PASSAGES FROM THE BURNING BIBLE.
I HATE THAT NIHILIST SHIT.
RIGHT THERE--
ALL UNITS--OPEN FIRE!
YOU MEN NEED TO WORK ON YOUR TRASH TALK...!
PAK
PAK!
YOU SOUND LIKE ASSHOLES RIGHT NOW.
SMOKE
STAND YOUR GROUND!
ENGAGE COUNTER MEASURES--
--INIT ATING OPTICAL TECH...!
REPORT BACK TO CENTRAL COMMAND...
...PRISONERS ARE NOT CONTA NED!
WHERE ARE THEY?!

SOMEBODY GET HIM A DOCTOR —
PIPE DOWN, KILGORE.
IF YOU'RE REALLY GONNA' BE AS USELESS AS YOU'RE ACTING RIGHT NOW...
YOU BETTER CALL UP THE AMBULANCE, HE'S DEEP IN SHOCK!
OVERLOADED, BABY...HE CAN HARDLY WALK!
...THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS SHUT UP AND QUIT DISTRACTING ME.
HOLD IT.
YOU CAN...
...YOU KNOW I'M HERE...?!
I KNOW A LOT MORE THAN THAT, TOUGH GUY.


...AWAITING THE LATEST REPORT FROM THE INDUCEMENT CHAMBERS.
THEY'RE UPPING THE AMPERAGE, SO PERHAPS THIS TIME WE'LL SEE THE DESIRED RESULT AND WE CAN PROPERLY STUDY THIS CREATURE.
I THINK YOU ALL KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.
SHFF
SHFF
THE SECOND CHURCH PROTECTS ITS SECRETS.
WHAT YOU HAVE WITNESSED--PERHAPS QUITE BY ACCIDENT--MAY HAVE GREAT RAMIFICATIONS ON THE WAY WE EXIST IN THIS WORLD.
THIS, WE SHALL ASCERTAIN IN DUE TIME.
BUT FOR NOW...
...YOU HAVE ALL SERVED WITH DIGNITY.
BUT OUR COURSE OF ACTION IS CLEAR.

I GIVE YOU THIS CHANCE TO SPEAK...
D-DEACON LARK N.. W-WE WERE NOT EXPECTING... TO...
PLEASE HAVE MERCY ON OUR SOULS...!

WE ARE NOTHING IF NOT MERCIFUL.
BUT YOU HAVE BEEN JUDGED--


--AND WE HAVE NO ROOM FOR REPENTANCE!

AND SO IT IS DONE.
THE SLATE HAS BEEN WIPED CLEAN.

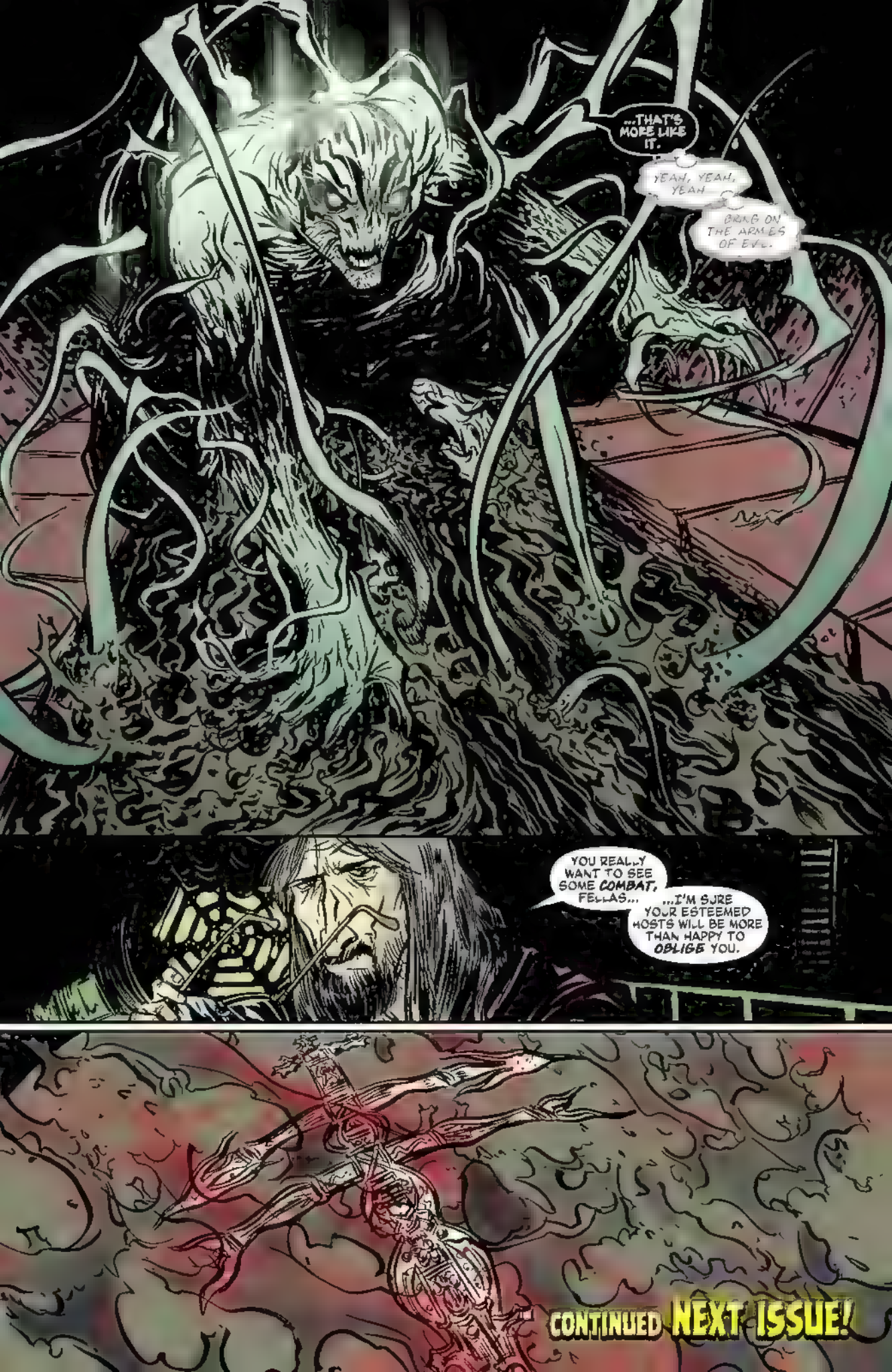
NOW WE ARE FREE TO--
ALERT! ALERT! ALL GROUND SECURITY--TWO TARGETS LOOSE IN ABRAXIS QUADRANT!
TWO TARGETS...?
INTERESTING.

SOONER OR LATER, WE'RE ALL CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE, SOLDIER.
JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE ALL GET NAILED.
CONFUCIUS SAY...HE WHO WILL NOT ECONOMIZE WILL HAVE TO MIDASIZE.

WHAT, YOU THINK YOU'RE SO SPECIAL?
JUST TO GET THE INTROS OUT OF THE WAY, LIL' KILGORE...THEY CALL ME STILL HARVEY TUBMAN.
STILL HARVEY... WHAT?! I-I DON'T ~

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

YOU'RE BOTH IN DEEP AND I'M HERE TO PULL YOU OUT OF IT!
CALL IT A SERVICE. CALL IT CHARITY. CALL IT WHATEVER YOU WANT. JUST DON'T FRONT ME, BOYS...
...YOU TWO ENGAGE IN A CERTAIN KIND OF TEAMWORK--
--AND THAT'S WHAT WE NEED RIGHT NOW!
YOU HEARIN' ME UP THERE, SOLDIER?!
WHO'RE YOU BARKIN' AT, OLD MAN?!
IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, I'M --
DEAD?! NOT QUITE, ASSHOLE.
AND WHILE YOU'RE STILL HALF HERE AND HALF THERE, YOU'D BETTER USE WHAT TALENTS YOU HAVE AND MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL!
Y-YOU GOTTA' BE KIDDING ME --
KURT...
...C'MON. IT'S MY ONLY WAY OUT OF...WHATEVER MESS THIS IS THAT I'M IN.
PLEASE.
FINE.
BUT ONLY 'CAUSE YOU ASKED ME NICELY.
RIGHT...


...THAT'S MORE LIKE IT.
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH
BRING ON THE ARMIES OF EVIL.
YOU REALLY WANT TO SEE SOME COMBAT, FELLAS...
...I'M SURE YOUR ESTEEMED HOSTS WILL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO OBLIGE YOU.
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

POSTMORTEM

postmortem @ mcfarlane.com
twitter.com/Todd_McFarlane
facebook.com/liketoddmcfarlane

Hi everyone,

This month, writer Joe Casey joins us to provide some perspective on the new series direction, and Todd talks about the revamped McFarlane online storefront. Thanks for checking us out this month!

Jen Cassidy
Managing Editor

@Andrenn from Twitter asks:

Will Haunt ever take on other horror creatures besides ghosts? Something along the lines of monsters, like the undead Vamps, Zombies, etc.

JOE: Short answer is: yes. Longer answer is: it's a weird world out there, and the Kilgore brothers are just now beginning to understand just how weird things can get. We're definitely going to amp up the monster vibe of this book in a big, bad way.

Justin W. from Facebook wonders:

Will there be any other entities like Haunt that Haunt will come across? I can't imagine there only being one ghost still free on the Earth.

JOE: That's a pretty good assumption there. Stay tuned.

Vladimir B. from Facebook writes:

Hi Todd. Will you make some special edition statue of Haunt? Cheers from Slovakia. Spawn rules.

TODD: We just started a new website for selling our McFarlane product. It has everything from our sports action figures to high-end statues. We just came out with our Spawn: The Beginning resin statue based off the first promotional piece I created for the comic. Haunt is high up on the list of statues we hope to do next. Go check out what we have available at store.spawn.com.

John D. from Facebook asks:

My question is where do we see Haunt going? More solo work with no back up? Is his service work done and now has to call on the spirit world to help? Will we see more ecto ghosts and have a band of ghost hunters come on scene? That would be cool.

JOE: It would be cool, wouldn't it...?

Mark R. from Facebook writes:

Does Joe Casey have a large plot in mind for *Haunt* that will be fleshed out with multiple smaller arcs? Or does he write smaller arcs so new readers will not miss much in terms of story?

JOE: Definitely a large plot. Huge plot. Massive plot. Hopefully, readers won't be missing anything... as long as they read each and every issue.

@xJEFFXKIMMELx from Twitter asks:

When will we learn more about Daniel's mother, and the drama within the family?

JOE: The entire Kilgore family history is up for grabs.

Next Issue: HAUNT #21

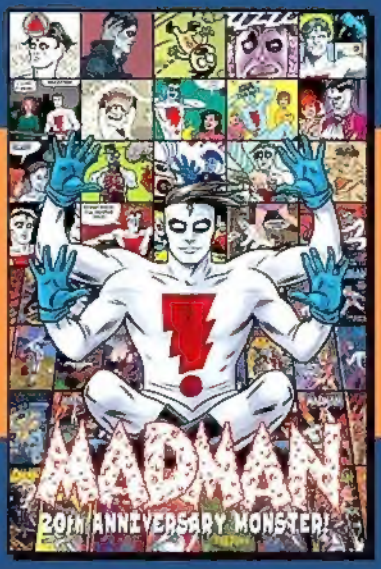
Cover subject to change.

It's the big showdown between the Kilgore brothers and the swarming hordes of the Second Church in the heart of Radical City! With the help of an enigmatic new ally, Haunt cuts loose on his enemies... but will it be enough to ensure his escape?

DECEMBER 2011

MADMAN 20th ANNIVERSARY MONSTER!

FRAZETTA! KIRBY! TOTH! MOEBIUS! KUBERT! MILLER! STEVENS! The BIG one! Literally. This gigantic 11 x 17 hardcover is the coffee table book of the Millennium! Nearly every great artist to ever work in comics is in this book which includes new stories from PETER BAGGE, KYLE BAKER, PHILIP BOND & PETER MILLIGAN, DARWYN COOKE, DAVE COOPER, DEAN HASPIEL, LOS BROS HERNANDEZ, ERIK LARSEN, DAVID MACK, PAT McKEOWN, BERNIE MIREAULT, MICHAEL AVON OEMING, PAUL POPE, ERIC POWELL, FRANK QUITELY, STEVEN T. SEAGLE & TEDDY KRISTIANSEN, JEFF SMITH, JAY STEPHENS, CRAIG THOMPSON, MATT WAGNER, JOE QUINONES & MARIS WICKS. Also MICHAEL ALLRED's latest – and most epic ever – MADMAN story! PLUS almost every Madman illustration collected over the past 20 years from all the greats. Surprises galore!

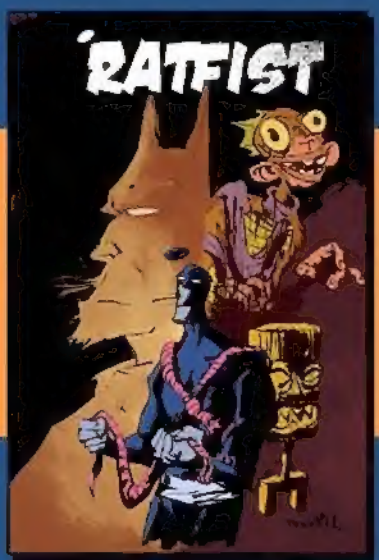


THE ACTIVITY #1

The evolution of global warfare necessitates the evolution of special forces to rise and meet the call. The U.S Army has therefore looked to its last secret special operations tribe, the INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT ACTIVITY, or Gray Fox. Within Gray Fox is a team of elite men and women whose mission is flexible, whose technology is bleeding edge, and whose execution is precise and lethal. They are Team Omaha, and they serve THE ACTIVITY.

THE LAST BATTLE (one-shot)

In 52 BCE, General Caius Rodius, retired hero of Caesar's Legions, is called back to war. In nearby Gaul, Rome's combined armies lay siege to the Gallic stronghold of Alesia in a conflict fated to shape history. A third barbarian horde prepares to attack the Romans from without, led by the rebel Cammius, who once fought for Rome. Rising star Julius Caesar dispatches Rodius to track through the wilderness and bring back the rebel's head. Who better to hunt Cammius than the man who taught him the very skills he now uses to defy Rome? Rodius must choose between duty to Rome and Caesar or the barbarian he raised as his own son. Story by international comics legend TITO FARACI (Diabolik, Spider-Man: The Secret of Glass, Daredevil and Captain America), art by award winning, multiple Eisner nominee DAN BRERETON (NOCTURNALS, Punisher, Marvel Ultimate Team-Up, God-Sized Thor, Red Sonja).



RATFIST TP

Earthworm Jim creator DOUG TENNAPEL is publishing his Webcomic RATFIST, a vigilante-in-tights that satirizes comics, politics, philosophy, and even TENNAPEL himself! Featuring a forward written by MST3K/RiffTraxx's MICHAEL J. NELSON, and pinups by RYAN OTTLEY, SCOTT KURTZ, CHRISTOPHER HASTINGS and ETHAN NICOLLE!

CHECKLIST

- AVENGELYNE #6 ☐
- BLUE ESTATE #8 ☐
- CHEW OMNIVORE EDITION HARDCOVER VOLUME 2 ☐
- DARKNESS #96 ☐
- ELEPHANTMEN #37 ☐
- GREEN WAKE #8 ☐
- HAUNT #20 ☐
- HEART #2 ☐
- THE INFINITE #5 ☐
- THE INFINITE TP VOL 1 ☐
- INVINCIBLE #86 ☐
- LAST OF THE GREATS #3 ☐
- LI'L DEPRESSED BOY #8 ☐
- MORIARTY #7 ☐
- MUDMAN #2 ☐
- NEAR DEATH #4 ☐
- OFFICER DOWNE BIGGER BETTER BASTARD EDITION HC ☐
- PIGS #4 ☐
- RED WING TP ☐
- REED GUNTHER #6 ☐
- SAVAGE DRAGON #177 ☐
- SEVERED #5 (of 7) ☐
- SPAWN #214 ☐
- THE STRANGE TALENT OF LUTHER STRODE #3 (of 6) ☐
- SUPER DINOSAUR DELUXE COLORING BOOK ☐
- TALES FROM BEYOND SCIENCE HARDCOVER ☐
- THE WALKING DEAD #92 ☐
- THE WALKING DEAD TP VOL 15 ☐
- WITCHBLADE #150 ☐
- WITCH DOCTOR TP VOL 1 ☐

The Third Degree: RIAN HUGHES

IMAGE COMICS' MONTHLY Q&A SESSION

Londoner Rian Hughes began his career as a designer working for Smash Hits, i-D magazine and a series of record sleeve design companies. His early comic strip work appeared in the alternative press magazine Escape, and this led to work for Belgian art-house publisher Magic Strip. His first mainstream UK comic work was Dan Dare with Grant Morrison for Fleetway's short-lived Revolver title, and from there he moved to 2000AD, illustrating such series as Really and Truly, again with Morrison, and Robo-Hunter with Peter Hogan. Dividing his time between illustration and design, he has provided design, custom type and illustration for advertising campaigns, CD and record sleeves, book jackets and graphic novels, and numerous comic book logos for mainstream comic publishers such as DC Comics and Marvel. Recent publications include Cult-ure: Ideas can be Dangerous (Fiell) and YESTERDAY'S TOMORROWS, a collection of his comic work which was recently launched at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, and is now available from Image.

What are you working on right now?
Some illustrations on a burlesque theme for an upcoming book collection; a logo for young upstart musicians The Lipstick Melodies; the cover design for the manual of correct hat-doffing and butler barking, *The Chap* magazine; logo designs for the reboot of a well-known comics line; and a sequel to *CULTURE: Ideas can be Dangerous*.

What's the best part of your job?
Creating beautiful things for appreciative clients.

What's the worst part of your job?
Being asked to spoil those beautiful things by clients who are visually tone-deaf, who make arbitrary changes and "improvements" that simply don't work.

How did you first discover comics?
Through a weekly British comic called *Countdown* that featured the talents of John M. Burns, Frank Bellamy and Mike Noble.

If you weren't working in comics, what would you be doing?
Working at the Large Hadron Collider as a particle physicist. The Earth-2 version of me studied physics instead of going to art school. He may harness dark matter, use it to build an interdimensional portal, and visit us soon.

What's the strangest thing a fan has ever said to you?
I have fans? Where? Are they cute? Can you introduce me?

What are you most likely to complain to an editor about?
The fact that a line of type should be 12.5 on 14pt, but has somehow been changed to 12 on 14pt and the kerning has been turned off. And that, yes, it does matter. Such things are of earth-shaking importance to us type design geeks. Even comic covers need to adhere to elementary design rules - please stick to a logical grid so things line up on a page, and from page to page, and don't just randomly throw elements together; don't reverse white type on a wide line length out of a detailed image or a photoshop texture and expect our eyes not to hurt; don't use 5 different fonts in wildly differing styles and sizes on one job; adding a chrome shine in Photoshop does not make a bad logo a good logo, you're simply doing what's known in the trade as 'turd polishing'; if you're trying to evoke a period, use the correct type style - Helvetica didn't exist in 1930; those free fonts are probably free for a reason... I'm getting carried away here, aren't I? Just apply some basic design common sense, I'll get of my soapbox now.

Who is the biggest influence on your work?
I respond to artists and designers who show an awareness of the overall structure of a piece, and then mess with that structure in an interesting manner. Monty Python, Alan Moore and Peter Saville all take one step further back from the job at hand, address our assumptions as to what it should look like, and see the wider picture that others miss or assume is a given. From a more stylistic point of view, I admire illustrators who show a healthy appreciation of design in their work and vice-versa - Serge Clerc, The Stenberg Brothers, Roger Excoffon, Jean Carlu, Yves Chaland, Frank Bellamy, Ashley Havinden, Ever Meulen, and more lately Ashley Wood and Shane Glines.

What is the single work of which you're most proud?
I hope that work is yet to come. If it isn't, I'm already past my best and sliding into late-period McCartney territory. Not a pretty thought.

Own up to one of your guilty pleasures.
My work is my greatest pleasure. True, and yet probably something no-one should own up to...

What was the last comic book you bought?
Solipsistic Pop 4 at the London Comiket at the weekend.

Who would play you in a movie about your life?
Someone far more handsome than I am in real life. A young John Foxx, perhaps.

Pick three things you couldn't live without.
A pocket-sprung mattress, a well-stocked library and the love of close friends and family.

What's the strangest thing you have in your house?
Where to start... there are nothing but strange things in my house. Random example: I somehow ended up with Black Grape's NME Award for Single of the Year, a bronze fist giving the finger. A flirty hand-written note with hearts on from Geri Halliwell, perhaps?

When was the last time you laughed out loud?
"Greece is halting exports of taramasalata and hummous due to the monetary crisis. It's a double-dip recession..."

What music are you listening to these days?
I'm lucky enough to be working with some bands whose work I genuinely rate. The Winchell Riots. Ultravox. Here in the studio, we often have BBC Radio 6 on quietly in the background.

What is your favorite film of all time?
It would have to be *Blade Runner*. Rutger's finest Hauer.

Who is your best friend?
I'm not telling, as I don't like to play favourites. They know who they are.

What is the worst advice you've ever received?
I'm not a great one for taking advice, and am trying to stop myself from giving it as well. I do remember meeting illustrator Brain Grimwood early in my career, who said "Ideas never go out of style". Now that's some good advice.

When was the last time you were truly frightened?
On a plane flying back to London from Muscat, Oman last year. The hydraulics failed and the plane started fishtailing violently. I looked out of the window and the end of the wing was on fire. We eventually made it back to Muscat by throttling the engines and turning the plane around, but that hour or so was the longest of my life.

Name someone you really admire and explain why.
Rather than an individual, I'd like to salute those cartoonists and artists who don't self-censor in the face of violent intimidation by certain pre-enlightenment religious thugs. While the comics fraternity have come together to protect it's First Amendment rights before, they seem to be (with a few notable exceptions) rather quiet this time around. Why? Maybe they don't fancy getting firebombed.

What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months?
No more crossovers, please. Stories I can pick up and understand without reading a dozen other titles first.

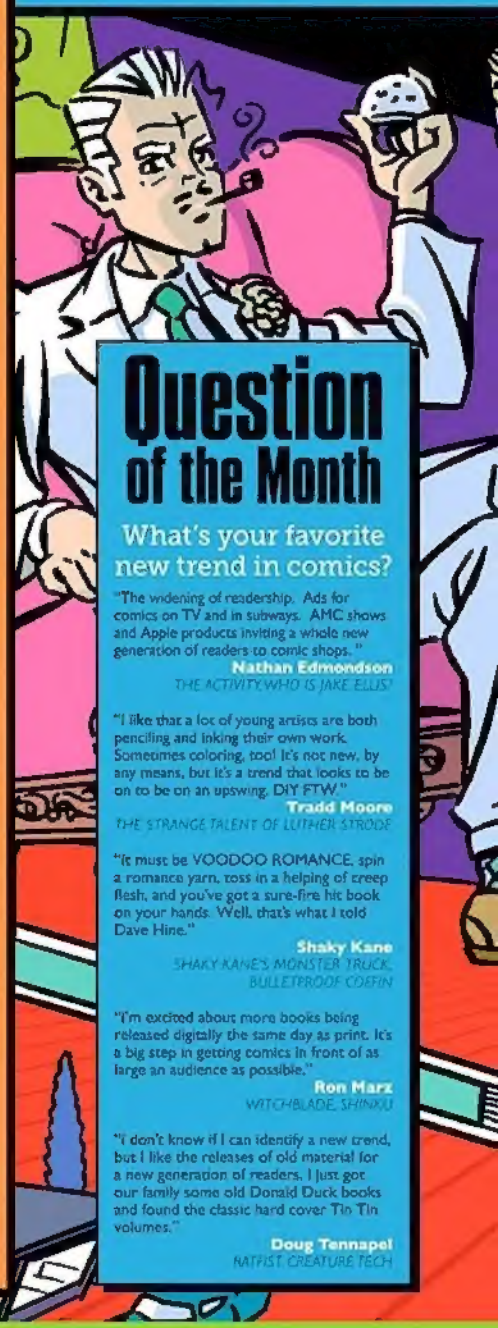
What the world needs now is...
A nice cup of tea and a neck rub.

Also follow Image Comics on Facebook and Twitter (@imagecomics)!

the image word

IMAGE COMICS, INC.
2134 Allston Way, 2nd Floor,
Berkeley, CA 94704.

Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc.



Question of the Month

What's your favorite new trend in comics?

"The widening of readership. Ads for comics on TV and in subways. AMC shows and Apple products inviting a whole new generation of readers to comic shops."
Nathan Edmondson
THE ACTIVITY, WHO IS JAKE ELLIS?

"I like that a lot of young artists are both penciling and inking their own work. Sometimes coloring, too! It's not new, by any means, but it's a trend that looks to be on to be on an upswing. DIY FTW."
Tradd Moore
THE STRANGE TALENT OF LUTHER STRODE

"It must be VOODOO ROMANCE, spin a romance yarn, toss in a helping of creep flesh, and you've got a sure-fire hit book on your hands. Well, that's what I told Dave Hine."
Shaky Kane
SHAKY KANE'S MONSTER TRUCK, BULLETPROOF COFFIN

"I'm excited about more books being released digitally the same day as print. It's a big step in getting comics in front of as large an audience as possible."
Ron Marz
WITCHBLADE, SHINKU

"I don't know if I can identify a new trend, but I like the releases of old material for a new generation of readers. I just got our family some old Donald Duck books and found the classic hard cover Tin Tin volumes."
Doug Tennapel
RATFIST, CREATURE TECH

For the latest Image Comics news and previews, visit www.imagecomics.com >>>

EMPIRE